



LOCAL WISHES LASTING IMPACT

2025 Quebec Report

With Gratitude: A Letter to You

On behalf of Make-A-Wish® Canada, thank you for the generosity and belief that make our work possible. Your support continues to deliver meaningful impact for children with critical illness and their families across Quebec.

Children facing critical illness endure far more than physical symptoms; they experience prolonged uncertainty, fear, and emotional strain. A wish intervenes at a pivotal moment, providing more than joy or distraction. Wishes help restore hope, strengthen resilience, and support emotional well-being at a time when it is needed most. *Wishes Are Medicine.*

As a supporter in Quebec, you are an essential part of this impact. This report highlights how your generosity translates into measurable outcomes and real experiences for children in your community — from key statistics and insights to stories that reflect the depth of change a wish can create.

Your commitment ensures that more children can access this critical intervention when they need it most. As Wish Mom, Jessie, shared: “I truly felt [my daughter] had given up on her fight. Experiencing her wish was a breath of fresh air, and post-wish she is happier, more content, and has regained her willingness to endure medical procedures along with a happy spirit that shines so brightly. Having her personality restored is the biggest win I could have ever asked for.”

Thank you for believing in the power of a wish and for helping deliver hope, strength, and healing to wish kids and families across Quebec.

With sincere appreciation,



Meaghan Stovel McKnight
Chief Executive Officer
Make-A-Wish Canada



Karen Shaver
Vice President Mission
Make-A-Wish Canada

ABOUT MAKE-A-WISH CANADA — Make-A-Wish Canada creates life-changing wishes for children diagnosed with critical illnesses. *Wishes Are Medicine* — a vital part of a child’s medical journey that helps restore strength, hope, and resilience. Research shows that prescribed wishes can improve adherence to treatment, reduce emergency room visits, and deliver lasting health benefits.

Make-A-Wish Canada is part of the world’s leading children’s wish-granting organization, serving children in communities across Canada and in 50 countries worldwide. Over the past 43 years, Make-A-Wish Canada has granted more than 40,000 wishes, including 1,835 last year alone.

(On the cover: Navy, 3, I wish to go to my favourite theme park)

Not All Medicine Comes in a Bottle

Wishes Are Medicine

Every day across Canada, children face critical illnesses no child should have to endure. In these moments, hope, strength and resilience matter more than ever. With your support, they receive something research shows is a powerful part of their care: a wish prescription that supports their medical journey and reminds them they are so much more than their diagnosis.



“Having a wish to look forward to definitely helped Millie get through her treatments. When she felt like she couldn’t handle another poke or IV, we reminded her of seeing dolphins soon and she would muster up her strength.”

Pamela, Millie’s mom

Click to watch Millie’s story



95% of surveyed doctors believe wishes improve health outcomes.

Patients who received a wish reduced their likelihood of using the emergency room by half.

95% of surveyed medical providers observed that wishes gave children strength to fight their critical illness.

Medical Advisory Committee



“There are reasons why some people do better than others, and we don’t always know what they are. Sometimes it’s the power of positivity, the power of hope, the power of kindness, and that can literally make the difference in people’s care.”

Dr. Sarah Dyack, Medical Geneticist, IWK Health Centre
Make-A-Wish Canada Medical Advisory Committee

Click to learn more from Dr. Sarah Dyack



A Taste of Joy – Annabelle’s Wish

I wish to attend the filming of the show Les Chefs!

Annabelle, 14
leukemia

Fourteen-year-old Annabelle is a passionate and curious foodie who loves cooking. Since she was little, Annabelle has loved watching her favourite French-Canadian TV show, Les Chefs!, on CBC, a weekly tradition she shares with her family that brings her comfort and inspiration.

At just eight years old, Annabelle faced a heartbreaking loss when her older sister, who was severely disabled, passed away. “Losing my sister left a huge void in our lives,” said Annabelle. Not long after, she received a leukemia diagnosis. She had to pause school, give up her favourite activities, and adapt to life dominated by treatments, fatigue, and isolation. During chemotherapy, Annabelle shared that everything tasted metallic, which took away some of the joy in cooking and eating, two of her greatest passions.

Thanks to Make-A-Wish Canada, Annabelle’s wish came true: visiting the filming of Les Chefs!. Two weeks before her wish day, she and her family visited St-Amour in Québec City, where Chef Jean-Luc Boulay revealed her wish would come true. On her wish day, Annabelle was treated like a star; made up and styled, meeting judges, contestants, exploring backstage and the control room, and tasting every dish.

“This wish gave me so much joy,” shared Annabelle. “Tasting all the dishes was amazing! I hope my parents and I never have to go through such a difficult experience again. They’ve always been there for my sister and me, and they deserve a little break.”



Pedalling Hope Forward



For nearly two decades, the 48-Hour Ride has been more than an endurance challenge; it has been a powerful act of hope. This signature event remains the single largest fundraising initiative for Make-A-Wish Canada, having raised more than \$30 million to date in support of children facing critical illnesses.

In September, the 48-Hour Ride brought together cyclists of all levels for 48 hours of relay-style riding. With over 470 teams and more than 2,850 participants, the 2025 edition raised over \$3.7 million. It was a reminder that impact is about more than numbers; it’s about commitment, generosity, and showing up for children and their families when they need it most.

Beyond the track, the weekend was filled with moments that mattered: inspiring wish family stories, unforgettable wish reveals, live entertainment, and a shared belief that every child deserves joy, especially in their hardest moments.

Katie Bessette, HR Lead Canada & Regional HRBP – Electrification at ABB Canada, and Honorary Chair of the 2025 edition along with her team, composed of ABB employees, were eager supporters of the two-day event. Katie said, “Participating in the 48-Hour Ride is more than philanthropy: it’s a concrete act to bring strength and light to children battling illness. I’m honoured to support this event that gives profound meaning to collective engagement.”

Right now, more than 3,500 children in Canada are still waiting for their wish. Every lap, every dollar raised, and every team rallied helps bring us closer to fulfilling their wish. The 48-Hour Ride isn’t just about going the distance; it’s about community helping children believe in what’s possible again.



Wishes by the Numbers in Quebec

466

Wishes granted in Quebec in FY25

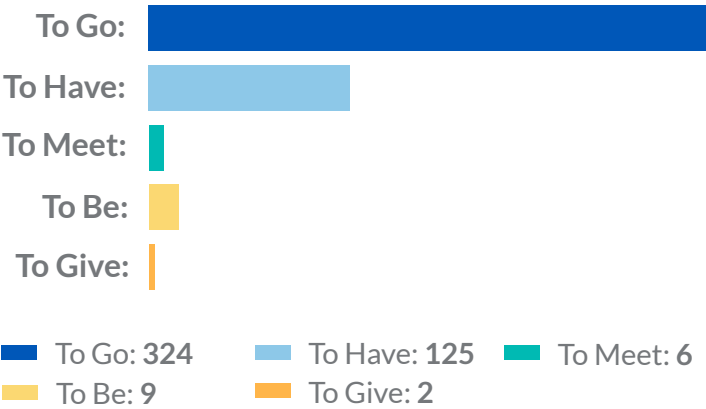
1,835

Wishes granted in Canada in FY25

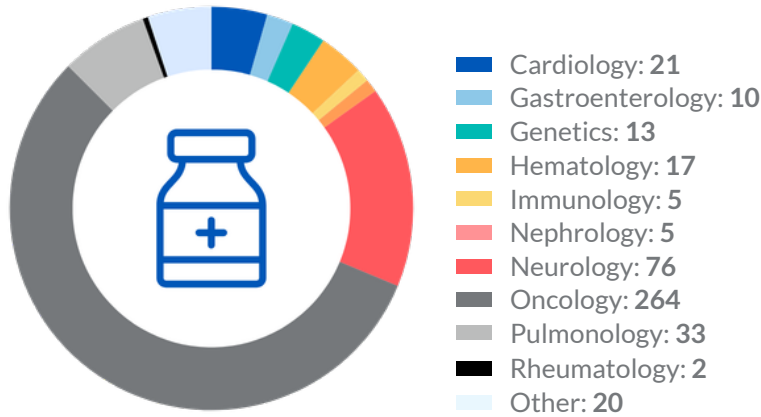
206

Communities wishes were granted Quebec in FY25

Wishes by type in Quebec: 466



Wishes by Illness in Quebec:



Every 2 hours...

a child in Canada is diagnosed with a critical illness

3,531

Wishes Are Waiting

in Canada as of October 1, 2025

335 referrals

were recieved in Quebec in FY25

Want to Learn More?

Click to view our FY25 Annual Impact Report.



Wish Leadership

Celebrating those who guide, inspire, and support wishes across Quebec.

STARboard unites wish alumni ages 13 to 18 who volunteer to be a voice for wish children. Their advice, event support, and ambassador work help Make-A-Wish Canada better respond to the needs of wish families across the country.

Meet Your STARboard Member: Uju

“Hello, my name is Uju, and I’m 16. When I was 12, I was diagnosed with a brain tumour after suddenly having a seizure at home. The news came as a complete shock, and I quickly underwent surgery. I faced complications that required additional surgeries, including one to fix an issue with my right eye. It was a difficult time for my family and me, but with their support, I kept going. Today, although my health is stable, I’m still closely monitored by specialists.

For my wish, I wanted a special shopping experience to celebrate my progress and treat myself after the challenges I had faced. It was even more amazing than I had imagined. Getting my makeup done and picking out everything I loved was a joyful day for my whole family.

I joined the STARboard to give back and help all wish kids create their perfect wish while having fun along the way.”



Uju
STARboard Member

Chapter Advisory Board

Quebec’s Chapter Advisory Board (CAB) supports Make-A-Wish in delivering fundraising and wish-granting efforts across the province. We are deeply grateful to the volunteers who share their expertise, time, and leadership.



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|------------------|---------------------|
| Bernard Lawrence | Philippe Desbiolles |
| Brian Cann | Pina Starnino |
| Eric Jodoin | Samuel Leroux |
| Kim Trang Nguyen | Sandra Filopoulos |
| Michael Tevel | Sidney Serour |
| Nadia Malik | |

Wish Granting Excellence

Generosity takes many forms. Here’s just a few examples of how supporters in Quebec are helping grant life-changing wishes.

TOJ Montreal

Trees of Joy Montreal was a magical holiday event celebrating its third year of bringing wishes to life. Supporters sponsored and customized 29 beautifully decorated trees alongside wish children, which were revealed at an invitation-only event before being delivered to families’ homes. The event welcomed 500 attendees, including corporate supporters, community partners, and 29 wish families. With 15 volunteers, the event helped fund 36 wishes and raised over \$367,500 to support Make-A-Wish Canada’s mission.



Ultimate Longueuil

In April 2025, Martin Cayouette joined the Ultimate Longueuil, an annual frisbee tournament supporting local charities. After his son Cédric had his wish granted by Make-A-Wish Canada to visit his favourite theme park, Martin and his family were inspired to give back. Through his participation, they helped raise funds for children’s wishes, spreading joy and hope in their community while celebrating the power of family, generosity, and unforgettable moments.



Guillaume Fortin Golf Tournament

For 20 years, the Guillaume Fortin Golf Tournament has proudly supported Make-A-Wish Canada, raising more than \$200,000 to help grant life-changing wishes for children facing critical illness. This year alone, the tournament raised over \$15,000. Over the past two decades, more than 500 participants contributed over 2,000 volunteer hours. As organizers take a well-deserved pause, we celebrate 20 years of remarkable impact.



Réalise Thé rêves

In April 2025, students from CJE de D’Autray-Joliette launched *Réalise Thé rêves*, an entrepreneurial project created through their continuing education program. Partnering with local tea shop Bois & Thé toi, the students designed and sold custom mugs in support of Make-A-Wish Canada. Their creativity and community spirit helped raise vital funds turning a classroom project into meaningful impact for children and families.



TOJ Quebec City

Trees of Joy Quebec City celebrated its second year as a heartfelt expression of compassion, community, and hope. Sponsors customized nine beautifully decorated trees alongside wish children at Chateau Frontenac Hotel. The event welcomed 90 attendees, including corporate supporters, community partners, and nine wish families, with 13 volunteers helping make it possible. Together, the event raised over \$76,000 and funded seven wishes, bringing joy, strength, and healing to children facing critical illness.



Ways to Give

Click to learn more about the many ways to support our mission.



Celebration & Recognition

Small Town, Big Wishes

Bringing hope to children in La Matane

For years, the Éperviers de Matane, a group of 35 members, have shown unwavering support for Make-A-Wish Canada. This year, their annual hockey tournament raised \$25,000 to make dreams come true for children in La Matane. Thirty teams from the Lower St. Lawrence, Gaspé Peninsula, and Chaudière-Appalaches regions competed in a festive and unifying atmosphere, helping to raise funds and awareness for children facing critical illness.

The Éperviers work closely with families they have supported through other community initiatives, making it easier to explore and fulfill wishes. As a smaller community, their commitment remains strong, and they aim to grant as many wishes as possible. Through the dedication of the Éperviers and the wider community, children experience strength, resilience, and hope when it matters most, proving that the size of the community does not determine the size of its impact.



Number of Active Volunteers in Quebec: 207



Victoria Sauriol
Provincial Volunteer of the Year



Yen Lee Siah
Rookie of the Year



Fairmont The Queen Elizabeth
Community Impact Award

Thank You for Making a Difference

Click to join our volunteer team.

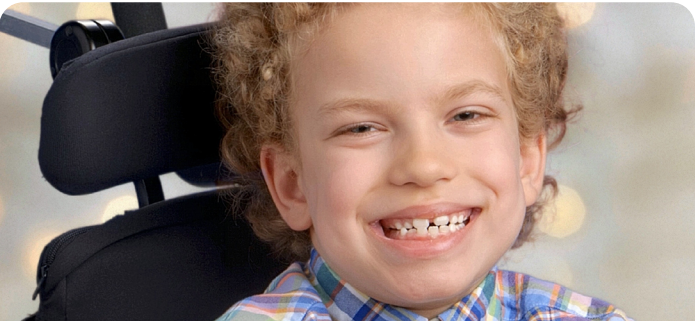


What Healing Looks Like

Thanks to your support vital wish prescriptions were filled for kids like...



I wish to go to my favourite theme park
Coralie, 16
nervous system disorder



I wish to go to Sesame Street
Leroy, 7
respiratory disorder



I wish to go to my favourite theme park
Charlie, 8
congenital heart disease



I wish to have a racing bike
Marie, 17
blood disorder



I wish to meet the characters from Super Mario World
Alexis, 10
leukemia



I wish to have a gaming computer
David, 7
leukemia



*I wish to be part of the Royal
Canadian Mounted Police*

Elizabeth, 10
leukemia

Invest in Hope

A gift of publicly traded securities is a meaningful way to help grant life-changing wishes for children facing critical illness.

You may eliminate capital gains tax and receive a charitable receipt for the full value — while granting more wishes across our province.

Learn how you can invest in hope:
makeawish.ca/donate-securities

Imagine Accreditation

Accredited under Imagine Canada's National Standards Program, Make-A-Wish Canada ensures that every donor gift is managed responsibly to create meaningful impact.

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